

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein the ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements are unmilled.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein the ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements have structural elevations ~~(20, 21A, 22A)~~ and depressions and are bonded together in the region of their contact points ~~(20, 21A, 22A)~~.

Claims 4-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to, ~~claim 1 characterized in that~~ claim 34, wherein at least one ~~grid member~~ lattice element has between 5 or 10 and 1500 or 1200 yarns per cm.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein the stacked ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements have differing structures.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein one ~~grid member (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice element is finer than another ~~grid member (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice element.

Claims 9-10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein one ~~grid member (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice element is a fabric (30).

Claim 12 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein one ~~grid member (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice element is an expanded metal (31).

Claim 13 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein a ~~grid member (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice element with a coarser structure is disposed between two ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements having a finer structure.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein the filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ is comprised of more than two comprises at least three stacked ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein the stacked ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements are made from different materials.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein the filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ comprises a weld flange ~~(16)~~.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein spacers ~~(27)~~ are disposed between ~~two grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ the first and second lattice elements.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 17, wherein the spacers ~~(27)~~ are welded to the ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein a filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ ~~is comprised of~~ comprises two ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements with a fine structure that are each welded to ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements having a coarser structure and ~~that~~ spacers ~~(27)~~ are disposed between the ~~grid members (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice elements having the coarser structures.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein, in the border regions ~~(29A, 29B)~~, the filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ ~~is comprised of~~ comprises a sheet metal strip ~~(34, 35)~~ in the direction of its longitudinal axis.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sheet metal strip (34, 35) is less than 100 mm, ~~preferably less than 20 mm,~~ wide.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sheet metal strip ~~(34, 35)~~ projects at least partially beyond at least one ~~grid member (1, 2, 30, 31)~~ lattice element.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9, 18, 24)~~ according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two sheet metal strips ~~(34, 35)~~ are welded together.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9; 18; 24)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ 34, wherein the filter material ~~(9; 18; 24)~~ comprises a frame.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The filter material ~~(9; 18; 24)~~ according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the frame is at least partially disposed between two ~~grid members (1; 2; 30; 31)~~ lattice elements.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A filter body, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the filter body comprises a filter material ~~(9; 18; 24)~~ according to claim ~~±~~ 34.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The filter body according to claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the filter body is a filter frame, a filter plate, a filter with a U-shaped profile, a filter ring or a filter cylinder ~~(33)~~.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A method of manufacturing a filter material (9; 18; 24) consisting of several grid members (1; 2; 30, 31), ~~characterized in that~~ the method comprises welding the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) together.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28,
characterized in that the method comprises welding the grid
members (1; 2; 30, 31) together to form a continuous length of
material.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28,
characterized in that the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) are pressed
together at a pressure in excess of 30 bar, preferably in excess
of 50 bar, during the welding process.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28,
characterized in that the grid members (1; 2; 30, 31) are welded
with a weld impulse of less than 10 milliseconds or of less than
5 milliseconds, preferably of about 2 milliseconds.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 28,
characterized in that, for welding, the grid members (1; 2; 30,
31) are pressed against each other using at least one welding
die.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The method according to, claim 28
characterized in that the filter material (9; 18; 24) is provided

with sheet metal elements and that the sheet metal elements are welded together so that the filter material (9; 18; 24) yields a cylindrical filter body.

Claim 34 (new): A filter material comprising first and second stacked lattice elements having a welded connection between the lattice elements, said filter material having more than 20 welded connections per 1.0 square centimeter and one of the lattice elements has openings with a diameter of less than 2.0 mm.